

10 May 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT: NSC Briefing Topics for 13 May 1954

1. The DCI's major briefing topic for the NSC this week is being supplied by another CIA component.
 2. OCI's responsibility, therefore, is confined to preparation of quite short topics which major developing events may require.
 3. In consequence, divisions are advised to follow the "round-up" pattern this week. It is suggested that division nominations of possible topics be made verbally by noon, Tuesday 11 May, with the expectation that approved topics will be available in text by 1630 that date. "Late starters", if any, can be cranked in during Wednesday 12 May, with cards on approved "late starters" to be available by 1630 that date, together with cards based on Tuesday texts.
 4. Continuing interest in Indochina developments, together with concern over post-DBP reactions in Southeast Asia generally, as well as in France, makes this general field the one of most likely interest. As #1 watch-topics, then, these seem the most logical at present:
 - a.) Indochina running story - i. mil. devels.
ii. internal polit. devels.
 - b.) Post-DBP reactions - i. Southeast Asia
ii. France (inc. Tuesday's Assembly devels.)
iii. Elsewhere
- Additional division nominations presumably would include crisis developments (latest Arab-Israeli?) and spot-news (Paraguay? Honduras?).
5. Because of the time-limit on length of material for this week and the "round-up" approach, little graphics guidance is available. It will certainly be advisable to keep the Tonkin Delta map up-dated and consideration might well be given to preparation of a new base for Indochina overall.

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